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&c., though Salvá very stoutly maintains in his "Grammática," (Paris, 1830,) that *y* should only be used as a consonant. We do not note down these changes in orthography as defects; but as peculiarities. Perhaps they will finally fight their way through all opposition, and become established forms. This, however, is a question to be decided by Spaniards themselves, and not by us. After all, these changes are so trifling, that neither teacher nor pupil could be for a moment embarrassed by them in using the Grammar. Mr. Cubí has discussed the subject in detail in an article entitled "Ortografia," in the second number of his "Revista Cubana."

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5. — *A Manual of Chemistry, on the Basis of Dr. Turner's Elements of Chemistry; containing, in a condensed form, all the most important Facts and Principles of the Science. Designed for a Text-Book in Colleges, and other Seminaries of Learning.* By JOHN JOHNSTON, A. M., Professor of Natural Science in the Wesleyan University. Middletown: Barnes & Saxe. 1840. 12mo. pp. 453.

THIS work, with the exception of occasional verbal alterations to adapt its parts to each other, is a reprint of such portions of the late Dr. Turner's "Elements of Chemistry," as were thought by the author suited to the wants of students in the higher order of literary institutions in this country, together with some valuable additions, not, however, of great amount, derived from other sources. No better work could have been selected, as the basis of a text-book on Chemistry, than that of Turner. With uncommon precision and elegance of language, it combines, in an unusual degree, the cardinal requisites of thorough research, sound judgment in the selection and arrangement of materials, great clearness of thought and expression, and an accurate and extensive knowledge of the subject. It is, however, too comprehensive, and embraces too great a variety of details, to be mastered in the limited time usually allotted to the science in our colleges, and Professor Johnston has done good service to the cause of education, by presenting to the public a selection of its more important parts, in a less bulky and expensive shape.

It will, perhaps, be regretted by some, that his additions are not more numerous. Since the publication of the fifth edition of "Turner's Chemistry," in the year 1834, many interesting disoveries have been made in the science; some of which, on account of their valuable practical applications, and others, on account of their important bearings upon certain new principles of chemical philosophy established within a few years, — such, for instance, as those of dimorphism and catalysis, — well deserve a place, even in the most elementary treatise. Professor Johnston has given an account of the new art of photogenic drawing, the processes of which were discovered by Daguerre; but he has made no mention of the scarcely less interesting and valuable art of electrography, or electrotype engraving, likewise of recent origin.

There is one mistake in the work, which the interests of truth and justice require to be corrected. We refer to the statement on page 102, in which Messrs. Cook and Davenport, of this country, are represented to have first constructed an electro-magnetic machine, capable of producing rotary motion. The invention was, without doubt, original in them; but they had been anticipated, both in this country and in Europe. Professor Henry, now of Princeton College, New Jersey, who has not had justice done to him in Europe for his invention, first contrived an instrument for generating motion, by means of an electro-magnet, and first applied the principle, which has been the basis of all subsequent attempts to use electro-magnetism as a motive power to propel machinery. Immediately after an account of Professor Henry's invention arrived in England, the late Professor Ritchie, of the University of London, by a modified application of the same principle, converted the reciprocating motion of the electro-magnet, obtained by Professor Henry, into one of rotation. Several electro-magnetic engines had been constructed in Europe before December, 1833, when, as it appears from a statement contained in Silliman's "Journal of Science," Mr. Davenport saw an electro-magnet for the first time. By far the most successful application of electro-magnetism, as a motive power, that has hitherto been made, is that of Professor Jacobi, of St. Petersburgh. By means of this agent he succeeded, in the year 1839, in propelling on the Neva a boat twenty-eight feet in length, and carrying fourteen persons, at the rate of about three miles an hour; a velocity, as he remarks, not much less than that of the first invented steamboat.

We would suggest to Professor Johnston the expediency of modifying, in a future edition, the principle by which he has been guided in the selection of his matter. It admits of great doubt, we think, whether, in reducing a comprehensive treatise on chemistry to a proper size for a text-book, it is judicious to attempt to "make the work true to the science, and present in true proportion all its important features." The science is of vast extent, and its different departments vary much in their relative importance, as objects of attention in a general education; it is, therefore, by no means desirable for the sake of learners, that, in reducing its several parts, the same regard should be had to harmony of proportion, that would be indispensable in reducing the size of a picture, or of an architectural design. While the philosophy of chemistry, and those subjects, which derive interest and importance from their connexion with our physical well-being, or from their relations to the arts, or which throw light on the great operations of nature, should be brought forward quite prominently and fully, a description of that very numerous class of substances, which have little or no claim to attention from these considerations, and which are little known beyond the precincts of the laboratory, might be wholly omitted in a work designed for the young. We do not wish to convey the impression, that what we object to in the general plan of Professor Johnston's book is peculiar to him. All the text books on chemistry, recently published in this country, are, in a greater or less degree, liable to the same strictures.

6. — 1. *Elements of Mental Philosophy, abridged, and designed as a Text-Book for Academies and High Schools.* By THOMAS C. UPHAM, Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Bowdoin College. New York: Harper & Brothers. 12mo. pp. 480.

2. *A Philosophical and Practical Treatise on the Will, forming the Third Volume of a System of Mental Philosophy.* By THOMAS C. UPHAM, Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Bowdoin College. New York: Harper & Brothers. 12mo. pp. 411.

WE have already noticed Professor Upham's larger work on Mental Philosophy,* of which one of the volumes now before us contains an abstract, prepared for the use of schools, and of those persons, who wish to gain a general knowledge of the subject, but have not either the leisure or the inclination to plunge deeply into the "science of abstruse learning." The Abridgment is evidently executed with care, and from the writer's long experience in the use of his original work as a text-book, we may be sure, that he has selected such portions

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* See *North American Review*, Vol. LI. p. 240.